

Town's still recovering

Storm costs
\$35,000 for snow
and tree removal

By Grey Perry
MPG Newspapers

DUXBURY — Clean up efforts began soon after last week's April Fool's Day storm subsided. DPW director Wally Tonaszuck said the storm cost the town \$34,161 to remove the snow and fallen trees.

He said there was still a small surplus in the snow and ice removal budget of \$9,100 that would go back to the general fund if it is not needed. Some of that money might be used in the ongoing efforts. "There is still some tree damage to clean up this week," Tonaszuck said.

Town manager Rocco Longo was seen Thursday distributing pay checks that had been written before power was lost. He was spotted leaving the harbor master's office where he had just dropped off checks and was headed to deliver other checks to other locations. He said town staff did a "great job despite loss of power and telephones for three days. Most people were quite considerate and understanding. Some wanted to make sure their payments were credited, but of course, we would give a grace period due to the storm."

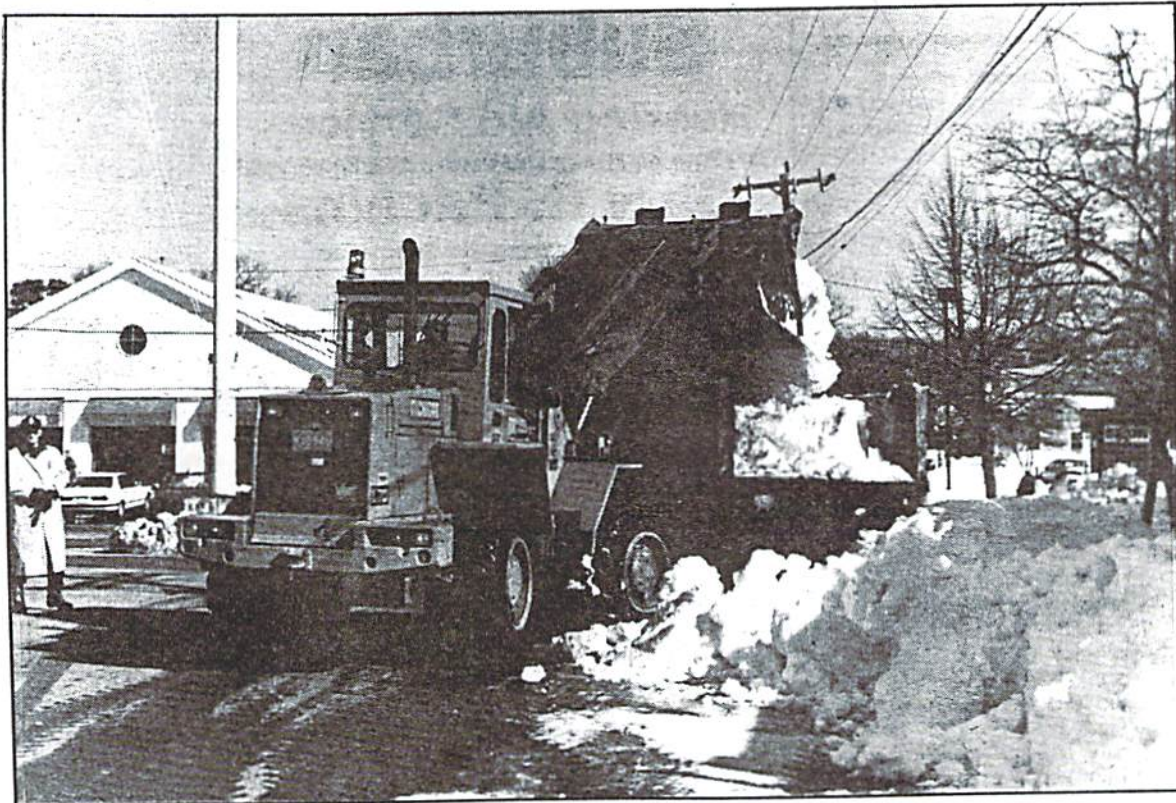
One woman, who apparently did not recognize Longo, would not

Please turn to page A5



Staff photo/Grey Perry

On course — Skier Terry Scott takes advantage of the late season snowstorm to get in a few holes of cross country skiing at the Duxbury Yacht Club golf course last Thursday.



Staff photo/Grey Perry

In it for the long Hall's — One day after the plow pushed the snow aside, a truck is used to haul it away, in this case, from the Hall's Corner circle. Plows and loaders worked much of last week clearing away the near record snowfall from the April Fool's Day blizzard.

■ Damages

Continued from page A4

give him her check for payment and said she would be back to give it to the right person in the proper office. Another man from Norwell complained bitterly that he could not get a clamming license, after driving all the way to Duxbury on Thursday. "He thought we should have tables set up in the parking lot to handle business during the power outage. It was cold enough in the building! We always try to please everyone, but it is hard to do," Longo said. Power was restored to town offices late Thursday afternoon.

In addition to burying the roads under 20½ inches of white stuff, the heavy, wet snow did much damage to Tree City, USA, particularly evergreens, such as cedars, pines and rhododendrons. Some hedges, lilacs and heavily twigged trees like birches bent under the weight of the snow, and many finally broke during the

"Most people were quite considerate and understanding."

— Town manager Rocco Longo

heavy wind gusts, some up to 60 mph, during the 15 hour storm. Large power chippers and chain-saws were a common sight and sound last week as homeowners began to clean up the fallen trees and branches.

Power lines, telephone and television cables were all affected and were not completely restored for up to four days after the Monday night storm. Commercial offices and stores in Hall's Corner were out of business due to no power for two days.

The DPW received a call just after the storm from a person asking them to clear part of the Train Field near the library so the

robins could find food. Apparently, no equipment could be spared for that, but rapid melting assisted the birds, as open spots began to appear with weather warming up Wednesday.

Harbormaster Don Beers said Duxbury Beach sustained some "movement of sand." Much sand that had been blown up on dunes over the winter that were to have been planted last weekend was blown further up on the beach. "So it was not lost. It is still part of the beach, only in a different place," Beers said. Many snow fences and some symbolic fence posts were carried away during the storm, and will be replaced soon, he said.



Fallen giant — This elderly white pine fell on a Temple Street home during the April Fool's Day blizzard. Homeowner Carol Chubb was home during the storm, but was not injured. Staff photo/Grey Perry

Around Town After The Blizzard of '97

Photos by Fran Nichols



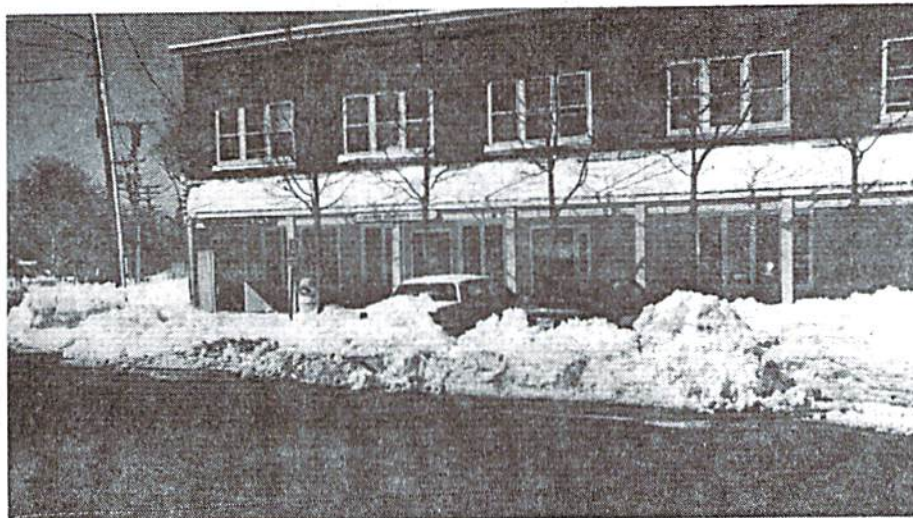
Duxbury Town Hall was closed for 2 days.



Snowplows piled a huge mound of heavy, wet snow in front of Duxbury Marketplace on Depot St.



This historic tree on surplus St. was one of many of Duxbury's storm victims.



Cars snowed in at Hall's Corner on April 2.